

Application No. 10/031,399
Docket No. CL-9622
(KUS.002)

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REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proper because it does not raise any new issues requiring further search by the Examiner, narrows the issues on appeal, and places the present application in condition for immediate allowance.

Allowed/allowable claims 4, 5, 7, 10-17, 20 and 26 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that **claims 4, 5, 7, 10-17, and 20 are allowed** and that **claim 26 would be allowable** if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 6, 23-25, 28, 34, 38, and 39 stand rejected on prior art grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by newly cited Takamatsu, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,493,308).

While Applicant believes that all of the claims are in condition for immediate allowance, to speed prosecution and place the application in condition for immediate allowance, allowable claim 26 is rewritten in independent form and claims 6, 23-25, 28, 34, 38, and 39 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the filing of a continuation application.

Thus, **claims 4, 5, 7, 10-17, 20 and 26 should now be allowed.**

Also, the rejection of claims 6, 23-25, 28, 34, 38, and 39 is rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims. Thus, the Examiner is requested to withdraw this rejection and permit allowed claims 4, 5, 7, 10-17, 20, and 26 to pass to immediate allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims (i.e., **allowed/allowable claims 4, 5, 7, 10-17, 20 and 26**) in the present application, are

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patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 27, 2006

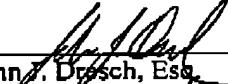

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I certify that I transmitted via facsimile to (571) 273-8300 the enclosed Supplemental Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 to Examiner Tianjie Chen, Art Unit 2652, on January 27, 2006.


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